District Technology Committee

Policy and Guideline Discussion

February 2, 2011

Highlights:

1. Edina Code of Ethics and District 196 Guidelines
   1. Privacy with sharing by students and bullying (cyber)
   2. Technology use: clicking on ads, sharing passwords, etc.
   3. These guidelines did not address time of use at school or after school
   4. Comprehensive and balanced responsibility of expression with freedom of speech
   5. Violations of Code of Ethics would result in consequences
2. Mtka Social Network Policy
   1. Value of use of Social Media stated
   2. Definition of social networking includes broad grouping (YouTube, MySpace, Facebook, LinkedIn, Flickr)
   3. Requirements of teachers using these tools include holding well-articulated discussion with students on acceptable use, your posts are your responsibility, cross-reference of other important policies.
   4. Guidelines for teachers: respecting others’ opinions, accurate citations.
3. District 196 Social Network Policy
   1. Personal and professional online use of social media
4. Student Use of Informational Technology – PLSAS
   1. What about younger students in terms of computer usage (2-8 and HS distinguished)?
   2. Very general policy but has many particulars embedded in the document.
   3. How do we track student accountability (i.e. student signatures)? Are we tracking accountability of student usage?
   4. How is this document shared or communicated to students?
   5. Policy appears to be a “catch you” instead of an instructional component to adherence to the policy

Key Learning for PLSAS to move forward:

1. Edina Code of Ethics and 196 Guidelines
   1. This would require regular introduction and review with students
   2. Borrowing from this policy would be helpful to not reinventing the wheel
2. Mtka Social Network Policy
   1. Separate policy and guideline for staff is important.
   2. Addresses outside use by personnel
3. District 196 Social Network Policy
   1. Articulating carefully what boundaries should exist between staff and students, including former students (How do we define former or current student?)
   2. Conduct guidelines
   3. Training for staff on strategies for safe use of social media and how to navigate the new tools that are available (within and outside of school)
   4. 196 has an example of wording to use with students who make a friend request
4. Student Use of Informational Technology – PLSAS
   1. Policy needs to remain in place for students and parents
   2. Policy covers student activities within the school district and using district resources.
   3. Develop a code of ethics or guidelines for effective student usage to accompany the policy.